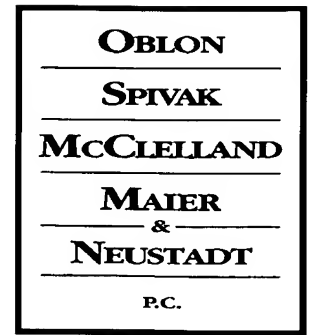




Docket No.: 247117US0



ATTORNEYS AT LAW

COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS  
ALEXANDRIA, VIRGINIA 22313

RE: Application Serial No.: 10/743,076  
Applicants: Shigemi WAKABAYASHI  
Filing Date: December 23, 2003  
For: WATER-BASED INK  
Group Art Unit: 1714  
Examiner: SHOSHO, C.

"RESPONSE UNDER 37 CFR 1.116-  
EXPEDITED PROCEDURE EXAMINING  
GROUP 1714"

SIR:

Attached hereto for filing are the following papers:

**RESPONSE AND REQUEST FOR RECONSIDERATION UNDER 37 C.F.R. 1.116**

Our check in the amount of \$-0- is attached covering any required fees. In the event any variance exists between the amount enclosed and the Patent Office charges for filing the above-noted documents, including any fees required under 37 C.F.R. 1.136 for any necessary Extension of Time to make the filing of the attached documents timely, please charge or credit the difference to our Deposit Account No. 15-0030. Further, if these papers are not considered timely filed, then a petition is hereby made under 37 C.F.R. 1.136 for the necessary extension of time. A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed.

Respectfully submitted,

OBLON, SPIVAK, McCLELLAND,  
MAIER & NEUSTADT, P.C.

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DOCKET NO: 247117US0

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE

IN RE APPLICATION OF :  
SHIGEMI WAKABAYASHI : EXAMINER: SHOSHO, C.  
SERIAL NO: 10/743,076 :  
FILED: DECEMBER 23, 2003 : GROUP ART UNIT: 1714  
FOR: WATER-BASED INK :

RESPONSE AND REQUEST FOR RECONSIDERATION

COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS  
ALEXANDRIA, VIRGINIA 22313

"RESPONSE UNDER 37 CFR 1.116-  
EXPEDITED PROCEDURE EXAMINING  
GROUP 1714"

SIR:

In response to the Office Action of December 7, 2006, reconsideration of the above-identified application is respectfully requested in view of the following remarks.

REQUEST FOR RECONSIDERATION

Claims 1-3 and 5-17 remain active in this application.

The claimed invention is directed to a water-based ink comprising an aqueous dispersion of polymer particles of a water-insoluble polymer having an alkyl group of at least 20-30 carbon atoms on its side chain and an acid value of 30-120 mgKOH/g and a hydrophobic dye.

Applicant wishes to thank examiner Shosho for the helpful and courteous discussion held with their U.S. representative on January 17, 2007. At that time, applicant's U.S. representative argued that an improved performance for a polymer having a C<sub>20-30</sub> alkyl group was observed as compared with a C<sub>1</sub> and a C<sub>12</sub> alkyl group, citing the data in